धर्म	41 अल्पसंख्यक बाहुल जिलों में धार्मिक अल्पसंख्यकों की जनसंख्या की प्रतिशतता से देश में उनकी जनसंख्या (जनगणना-1981)
मुसलमान	36.71
ईसाई	8.75
सिख	1.91
बौद्ध	14.98
पारसी	70.65

Separate Ministry for disabled persons

7562. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up a separate Ministry for disabled persons at the Centre and departments for the disabled in each State of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(d) the steps taken by Government to provide education and solve the problems of the mentally retarded children in the country particularly in the State of Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF WELARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) The Government have no proposal at present to set up a separate Ministry for disabled persons at the Centre. Setting up of Departments for handicapped welfare in the States is the responsibility *ol* the respective State Governments.

(c) A separate Miaistry for Disabled persons is not necessary at this stage.

(d) Three schemes are implemented through voluntary organisations for education, training and rehabilitation of handicapped persons including mentally retarded children. The name of schemes, the total number of voluntary organisations in the country and in Punjab are as follows:—

Name of the Scheme	Total number of NGOs assisted during 94-95	Total number of NGOs assisted during 94-95 in Punjab
1. Assistance to Organisations for the Disabled.	409	6
2. Assistance to voluntary organisations for establishment of Special Schools.	42	1
3. Assistance to Organisations for manpower development in the field of Cerebral Palsy and Mental Retardation.	13	—

Programme for SC/ST under Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Scheme

7563. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether programmes under Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Scheme for the SC/STs have been fully achieved during the last three years; and

(b) if not, what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) There is no scheme named "Dr. Baba Ambedkar Scheme for the SC/STs" being implemented by the Ministry of Welfare. However, in March, 1992, the Government set up Dr. Ambedkar Founda-